IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent

In re patent application of: LILL et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: On even date herewith

Art Unit: Unassigned

For: METHOD AND MEANS FOR DRILL PRODUCTION Dckt No.: P07494US00/dej

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

A clean version of all pending claims is provided herewith in Attachment A. It will be noted that all the have been amended relative to the previously provided version as shown by the marked up version thereof in Attachment B provided herewith.

REMARKS

The present amendment is made to eliminate multiple dependent claims and thus eliminate the requirement for a multiple claim fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/14/02

Registration No.: 28,518

LARSON & TAYLOR, PLC • 1199 North Fairfax St. • Suite 900 • Alexandria, VA 22314 • (703) 739-4900